Computer Hardware Export

1916. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that computer hardware exports had gone upto Rs. 1250 crore in 2000-2001 in comparison to Rs. 600 crore in 1999-2000, registering a 109 percent growth;

(b) if so, what are the target fixed for the current fiscal year; and

(c) the quantum of computer hardware exports made till date?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) The export of computer hardware increased from Rs. 600 crores in 1999-2000 to Rs. 1200 crores in 2000-2001, registering a growth of 100%.

(b) The Electronics and Computer Hardware Export Promotion Council (ESC) has set a growth target of 20% for electronic goods in totality.

(c) Export of computer hardware is estimated to be Rs. 700 crores during the first half of the current year (April-September, 2001).

Internet Services

1917. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to increase internet services in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the big cities of Rajasthan proposed to be linked by an international Gateway Hub;

(c) by when approval would be given by Government; and

(d) the number of Computer Information Centres set-up till date by Government indicating the funds allocated to each Centre in the country; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The steps taken by the